REMARKS

In the Office Action issued on September 6, 2007, the Examiner objected to claims 1-4 because of uncertainty as to the meaning of certain terms in the respective claims, rejected claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as failing to be directed to statutory subject matter, and rejected claims 1-2, 5-9 and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Liu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,266,660) in view of Whang et al. (US Patent No. 6,349,308). Claim 3-4 and 10-13 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 1-4 and 5-16 because of her uncertainty as to the meaning of certain terms in the respective claims. To expedite prosecution the Applicants have amended claims 1-4 so that they recite that the primary B+ tree is indexed organized and amended claims 5-16 have been amended so that the B+ tree refers to a primary B+ tree. The Applicants believe that the object has been overcome and withdrawal of the object is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101

The Examiner rejected claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as failing to be directed to statutory subject matter. The Applicants traverse the Examiners rejection. Claim 15 clearly recites, on lines 4-5, that computer program instructions are recorded on the computer readable medium, that are executable by a processor to perform the claimed steps of claim 15. The

Applicants requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2,5-9 and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Liu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,266,660) in view of Whang et al. (US Patent No. 6,349,308).

The applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claim 3 so that it recites, *inter alia*, "a guess-database address that is a guess as to what address block of the primary B+tree a row may be found." Claims 5, 15 and 16 recite similar limitations.

Neither Liu nor Whang discloses this limitations. Liu merely discloses a secondary index that stores secondary index records that includes primary key values and data records having data. There is no disclosure in Liu of a guess-database address that is a guess as to what address block of the primary B+tree a row may be found as recited in independent claim 1.

Whang does not cure the deficiencies of Liu. Accordingly, the combination of Liu and Whang does not teach or suggest the invention as now recited in claim 1. Claims 5, 15 and 16 recite similar limitations and thus are not taught by the combination of Liu and Whang.

Claims 2 and 4, and 6-14 depend from claims 1 and 5 respectively. Accordingly, the combination of Liu and Whang does not teach or suggest the invention as now recited in claims 2 and 4, and 6-14 for the same reasons discussed with respect to claims 1 and 5.
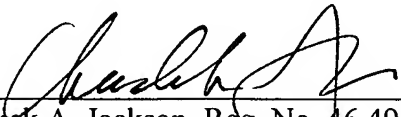
Additional Fees:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 50-4047 (4191110143).

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, all of the Examiner's rejections to the claims are believed to be overcome. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all the claims remaining in the application. Should the Examiner feel further communication would facilitate prosecution, he is urged to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below.

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